

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NOUAKC 00792 021051Z

14

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 AID-05 ACDA-07 SAM-01 /083 W

----- 025493

R 020800Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5410

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIFLPK

UTAOH/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA 12

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 0792

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MR BR CU AO

SUBJECT: MAURITANIA PLANNING CAMPAIGN TO EXPAND BRAZILIAN
ROLE IN AFRICA TO COUNTERBALANCE CUBA

1. DURING COURSE OF WIDE-RANGING, INFORMAL CONVERSATION,
AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE SULAYMAAN OULD SHEIKH SIDIYA TOLD AMBASSADOR
APRIL 1 THAT MAURITANIA HAS PLANNED AND IS ABOUT TO EMBARK
ON DETERMINED DIPLOMATIC EFFORT TO ASSIST BRAZIL TO EXPAND ITS
ROLE IN AFRICA IN A CONSCIOUS ATTEMPT TO OFFSET RECENT AND
CONTINUING INCURSIONS BY CUBA IN AFRICAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
GIRM HOPES TO PERSUADE AFRICAN STATES THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE
FOR AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE REASONS AND FAR MORE PROFITABLE
TO ENCOURAGE INVOLVEMENT OF RICH AND POWERFUL BRAZIL IN
AFRICA THAN TO PERMIT SMALLER AND POORER CUBA TO EXPAND ITS
UNWELCOME PRESENCE FURTHER.

2. ACCORDING TO SIDIYA (WHO WAS BROUGHT BACK TO
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NOUAKCHOTT A FEW MONTHS AGO BY FOREIGN MINISTER MOUKNASS

TO TROUBLESHOOT AND HANDLE ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE MISSIONS),
GIRM HAS BEEN DELIGHTED BY ITS
ASSOCIATION WITH MAJOR BRAZILIAN CONTRACTOR, MENDEZ
JUNIOR, WHO HAS NEARLY COMPLETED NOUAKCHOTT-BOUTLIMIT
SEGMENT OF CRITICALLY-IMPORTANT (TO GIRM) NOUAKCHOTT-
KIFFA-NEMA ROAD.

3. AS FIRST PRACTICAL STEP IN ITS EFFORT TO PUSH
BRAZIL FORWARD, GIRM HAS INVITED BRAZILIAN FOREIGN
MINISTER TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT TO NOUAKCHOTT IN
NEAR FUTURE, AND PLANS TO "INTRODUCE HIM TO NUMBER
OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN AFRICA".HANDYSIDE

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